



April 13, 2006

Indictment charges Anthony St. Laurent with extortion conspiracy

A federal grand jury has charged **Anthony St. Laurent, Sr.**, 64, of Johnston, with conspiring to extort payments from two men.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente, Kenneth W. Kaiser, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Colonel Steven M. Pare, Superintendent of the Rhode Island State Police, and Colonel Dean Esserman, Chief of the Providence Police Department, jointly announced a one-count indictment, which the grand jury returned yesterday in U.S. District Court Providence.

The indictment alleges that, in March and April, St. Laurent and others conspired to use extortionate means to collect extensions of credit from two men and to punish them for the non-repayment of those extensions of credit.

Upon conviction, conspiracy to commit extortion has a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. An indictment is merely an allegation and a defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

A team of agents and detectives arrested St. Laurent this morning at his home. He pleaded not guilty before Magistrate Judge David L. Martin and was ordered detained.

The FBI investigated the case, with assistance from Rhode Island State Police and Providence Police. Assistant U.S. Attorney James H. Leavey is prosecuting the case.

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